

Membership.—While membership in the reading circle is technically optional, it is virtually compulsory to those teachers that desire to have any professional standing. To encourage teachers to take the course the county superintendents have been advised to renew, free of cost, the first-grade certificates of all who are members of the reading circle and County Teachers' Association, and to give such teachers the preference, other things being equal, in positions and salaries. A special blank post-card was prepared, on which the county superintendent reported to the Supervisor of Teacher-training every month the essential things done in his county in the way of professional training of teachers. From these reports it is estimated that about 60 per cent of the teachers were enrolled as members of the North Carolina Teachers' Reading Circle. The enrollment during the next biennial period promises to become much larger.

Educational Bulletins.—A very important feature of the work of teacher-training is the preparation and distribution, free of cost to the teacher, of a series of helpful educational bulletins on various topics. Teachers are urged to read these bulletins and to keep them on their desks for ready reference. Five of these bulletins form a part of the reading circle course: How to Teach Reading, Course of Study, Institute Manual, Health Talks, and Opening Exercises.

Success.—The county superintendents are responding heartily, as a rule, to all plans and suggestions respecting the operations of the reading circle, and are meeting with marked success in their respective counties in the important work of stimulating greater professional zeal and knowledge in their teachers.

PERSONAL VISITATION BY THE SUPERVISOR.

The Supervisor of Teacher-training has personally visited sixty-five counties, either during the institute or some meeting of the County Teachers' Association. During the school term he is absent from his desk the latter part of almost every week attending county teachers' associations, where he presents some phase of the work of teacher-training.